



City of Arts & Innovation

News Release

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Riverside Welcomes “Flame of Hope” On Way to Special Olympics World Games

Sunday event a prelude to opening ceremonies at Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – The City of Riverside will welcome the Flame of Hope, the official torch of the Special Olympics World Games Los Angeles, with a ceremony at 8:30 a.m. Sunday (7/19) at Ryan Bonaminio Park.

An international team of law enforcement officers will carry the beacon of inspiration through the streets of Riverside before arriving at Bonaminio Park, at Tequesquite and Palm avenues, near Mount Rubidoux. The stop is part of the Law Enforcement Torch Run Final Leg on the way to the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, site of the opening ceremonies on July 25.

Speaking at the ceremony will be law enforcement Officer Ho-yin Tse from Hong Kong and Special Olympic athlete and Final Leg runner Brett Laza from the Southern California Torch Run Program.

Community members are encouraged to join the celebration alongside law enforcement to express support for these athletes. Throughout the journey of the Final Leg, law enforcement officers from around the world will be spreading the message of acceptance and inclusion for children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

The Flame of Hope will complete its journey on July 25 when the Law Enforcement Torch Run Final Leg team carries it into the Opening Ceremony of the 2015 World Games. The flame will ignite the cauldron at the historic Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, site of the 1932 and 1984 Olympics Opening Ceremony.

Access daily photographs, videos and reports of the Flame of Hope’s journey online at: LETR-FinalLeg.org and on social with #FinalLeg2015 on Facebook and @LETRforSO on Twitter. For more information on the 2015 Special Olympics World Games, including volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, visit www.LA2015.org and on social with #ReachUpLA on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.